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## CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

**24-HOUR REPORT****8 AUGUST 2018**

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**(U) CALIFORNIA****(U) San Diego – Man Sentenced After Record Drug Seizure At US-Mexico Port**

(U) A Tijuana college student was sentenced to more than seven years in federal prison for smuggling nearly 80 pounds of fentanyl into the United States. 20-year-old Flavio Diego Rivera Davalos was sentenced after pleading guilty in March 2018 to a drug importation charge. Rivera admitted that he attempted to drive through the San Ysidro port of entry in December 2017 with the fentanyl in his car. Federal prosecutors wrote in a trial brief that It was the largest single fentanyl seizure at any port of entry. Assistant US Attorney for the Southern District of California Sherri Walker Hobson says that amount of the opioid "would yield 800,000 potentially fatal (doses)" and is valued at about \$2.1 million.

SOURCE: 7 August 2018, [Associated Press](#)

**(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER****(U) Arizona – Border Patrol Arrest 21-Year-Old Caught Smuggling 130 Pounds of Marijuana**

(U) Tucson – US Customs and Border Protection officers at the Raul Hector Castro Port of Entry prevented 130 pounds of marijuana from being smuggled into the US. Officers referred a 21-year-old man for a further inspection of his truck, following an alert by a CBP narcotics detection canine to an odor it was trained to detect. Officers searched the vehicle, finding multiple packages of marijuana concealed in the fenders, doors, and seats of the vehicle. The drugs have an estimated street value of \$65,000. Officers seized the drugs and vehicle. The subject was arrested for narcotics smuggling. He was then turned over to US Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations.

SOURCE: 7 August 2018, [CBP Press Release](#)

**(U) NATIONAL****(U) Kansas – Three Life Terms for Shooter in Hate Crime**

(U) Kansas City – A man who opened fire in an Olathe bar, killing an immigrant from India and wounding two other men, was sentenced yesterday in federal court to three consecutive life prison sentences for what federal prosecutors said was a hate crime. 53-year old Adam Purinton did not speak in court as he was sentenced for the February 2017, shooting that killed Srinivas Kuchibhotla. Purinton pleaded guilty to federal hate crime charges in May 2018, in a deal that allowed him to avoid the death penalty.

SOURCE: 7 August 2018, [Associated Press](#)

**(U) Kansas – Man Sentenced for Smuggling Half-Ton of Methamphetamine**

(U) Topeka – A Mexican national was sentenced in federal court for his role in smuggling more than a half-ton of liquid methamphetamine, the US Attorney's Office said. Fernando Chavez-Rodriguez was given 12 years in prison after pleading guilty to a single count of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute the drugs. Federal agents watched as Chavez-Rodriguez and others unloaded more than 1,000 lbs. of liquid methamphetamine from a semi-truck. They were using five-gallon buckets to take the drugs out of a fuel tank. They loaded the buckets into a white Dodge Caravan.

SOURCE: 7 August 2018, [WIBW](#)

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**UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY****(U) North Carolina – Ex-TSA Officer Sentenced in Drug Trafficking Operation**

(U) Charlotte – 50-year-old Jamie Blunder was sentenced to 25 years in prison yesterday for his role in a drug trafficking operation. The ex-Transportation Security Administration (TSA) agent was convicted by a federal jury in 2017 on drug and firearm charges, according to a release from the US Attorney's Office. Blunder, who worked at Charlotte Douglas International Airport, was part of the drug trafficking organization from 2002 to 2016, the release states. Blunder would use his status as a TSA employee to avoid detection from law enforcement and helped to distribute cocaine and crack cocaine in multiple North Carolina cities.

SOURCE: 7 August 2018, [Charlotte Observer](#)

**(U) INTERNATIONAL****(U) Switzerland – Vaccinations Start for Zaire Strain in Latest Ebola Outbreak**

(U) Geneva – An Ebola outbreak in Democratic Republic of Congo has been confirmed as the Zaire strain of the virus, and vaccinations will start today. In the latest outbreak, declared last week, 43 people are believed to have been infected in North Kivu province, including 36 who have died. Forty-six other suspected cases are being investigated. Congo's health minister said in that an ethics board had approved starting vaccinations. The experimental vaccine, which is manufactured by Merck (MRK.N), proved successful during its first wide-scale usage against the previous outbreak in Equateur Province.

SOURCE: 7 August 2018, [Reuters](#)

**(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.**

**(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL [STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV](mailto:STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV), OR CALL 916-636-2900.**

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